

### Larson Announces Federal Funding to Local Fire Departments

**Hartford, CT-** Today, U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) announced that two local fire departments were awarded federal funding from the Assistance to Firefighters program. The West Hartford Fire Department and the Windsor Fire Department will receive \$134,400 and \$18,900 respectfully in funding. All of the grants were awarded under the operations and safety program area.

Congressman Larson said, ***“We must provide our first responders with the necessary equipment, technology, and support to safely do their jobs to protect our communities.”***

***“During these tough economic times, municipalities are facing tough budget decisions that may prevent them from adequately supporting their public safety agencies,”***

Congressman Larson added.

***“This grant program alleviates the financial burden placed on towns and allows them to ensure the safety of their residents as well as the men and women who protect them.”***

Congressman Larson has long supported the Assistance to Fire Fighters grant program and encourages all fire departments in his district to apply for funding. Congressman Larson’s Office contacted all 37 fire chiefs in the district to provide information on the program’s application process and to offer his office’s federal grants coordinator as a resource to answer any questions.

Last year, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program distributed approximately \$1.7 million dollars in funding to fire departments and EMS organizations in the First Congressional District.

### Background on the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

Administered by the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), the Assistance to Firefighters provides grants and funding for training and equipment for our nation's fire departments and first responders.

This year, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program will award approximately \$565 million directly to fire departments and EMS organizations to enhance their response capabilities and to more effectively protect the public and emergency response personnel with respect to fire and all other hazards.

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